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## **Board President's Statement on Preliminary Injunction Prohibiting Enforcement of Vaccine Mandate for Federal Contractors**

"A federal judge in Georgia today granted a preliminary injunction prohibiting President Joe Biden's administration from enforcing its COVID-19 vaccine mandate for federal contractors and subcontractors including employees at Idaho's public universities," Idaho State Board of Education President Kurt Liebich said.

"This is the outcome the Board was hoping for when it followed Idaho Governor Brad Little's lead in joining a federal lawsuit filed last month in the State of Georgia challenging the president's executive order mandating the vaccinations.

"Since the mandate was issued, our institutions have been struggling to develop plans to comply, and the preliminary injunction gives us breathing room to chart a proper path forward without forcing employees to choose between getting vaccinated or potentially losing their job.

"Idaho's universities hold approximately \$90 million in federal research contracts, which may have been put at risk by the mandate.

"Our colleges and universities continue to offer voluntary vaccinations on each of their campuses and I urge students and employees to get vaccinated."